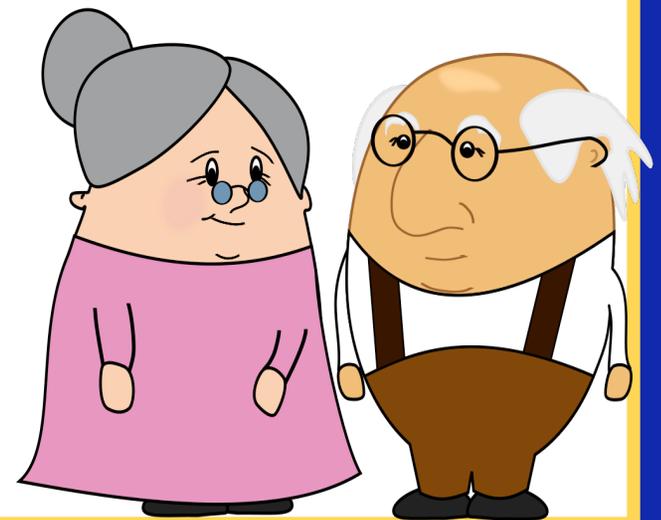


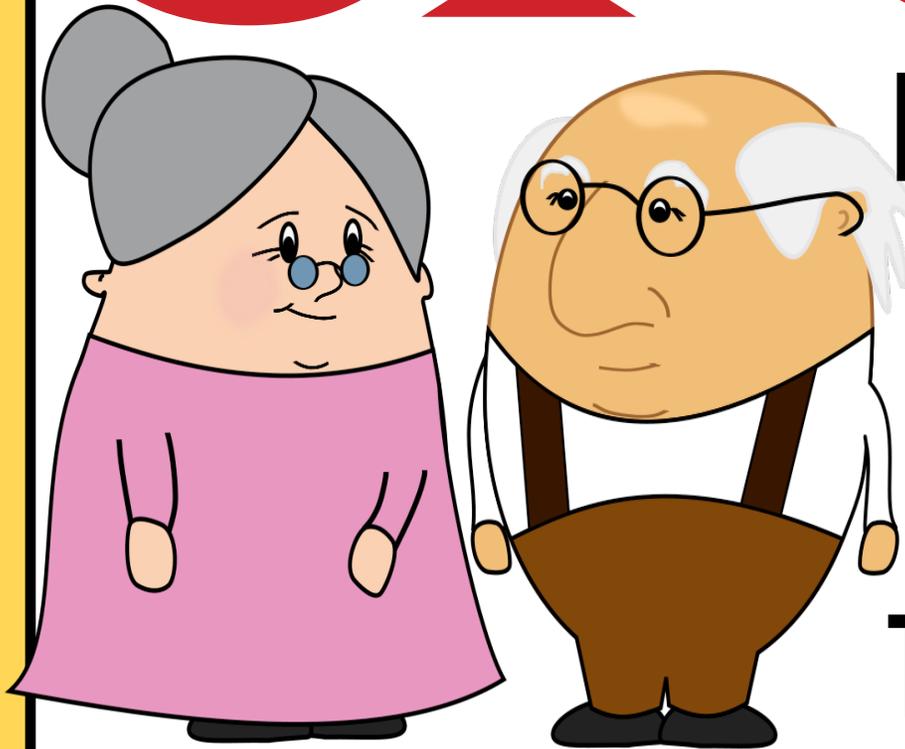
THE HOUSE OF THE OLD: TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

1. After students have read the chapters 3-4, put the poster on page 2 on your door, welcoming them to The House Of The Old.
2. Once students arrive, put them into groups of 4. Give each group the culture cards which explain how different cultures treat their elderly. There is also a blank card with the title “Jonas’ Community”.
3. Students should read each of the cards and discuss as a group the differences between how these cultures treat their elderly as compared to Jonas (and also their own country).
4. Once discussion is completed, students will fill out the blank card with information about how the elderly are treated in the novel.
5. Each group will share their card with the class and then discuss:
 - Why do you think grandparents are not part of the family unit in this community?
 - Do you think nursing homes and The House Of Old are the same?

Information source: <https://theweek.com/articles/462230/how-elderly-are-treated-around-world>



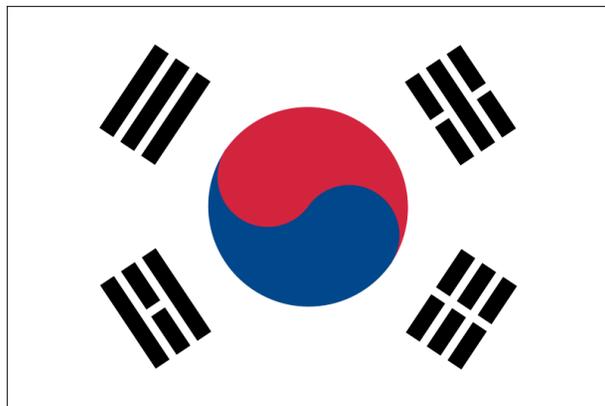
WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF OLD



EXAMINING HOW THE
ELDERLY ARE TREATED
IN DIFFERENT
CULTURES COMPARED
TO JONAS' COMMUNITY

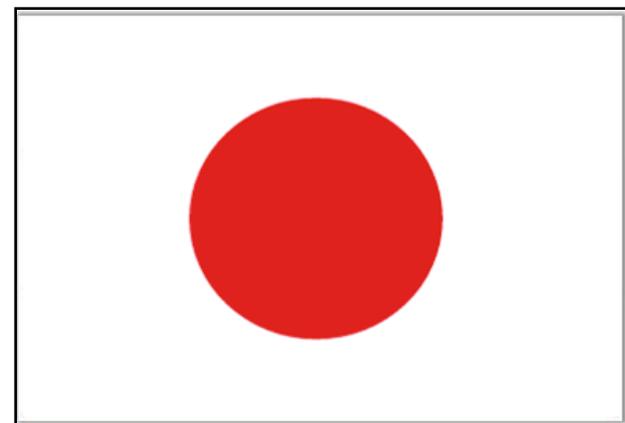
SOUTH KOREA

Koreans regard the elderly with great respect and often celebrate their birthdays in grand fashion. The 60th and 70th birthdays are particularly important and are marked with big parties and banquets. As parents age in Korea, there is an expectation on the children to care for their aging mother and father. The duty is one that comes with great honor and responsibility.



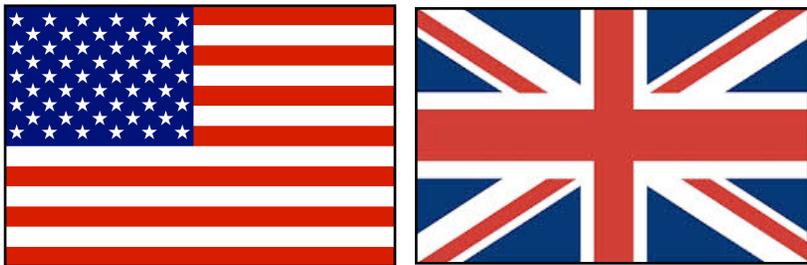
JAPAN

As the Japanese age, there is an expectation for children to care for their aging parents. One unique issue in Japan is the high population of elderly citizens. One study shows that 7.2% of the Japanese population will be over 80 years old in 2020 (almost double the rate of the U.S.). This unbalanced population can lead to many problems, one being the fact that there will be a significant burden on the country's pension system.



USA / UK

Western cultures often focus on the benefits of youth and tend to promote more independence as people grow older. In countries like the U.K. and the U.S., the elderly population are often separated from their children and friends as they get older. They will move into nursing facilities and will be visited by family members in that location, sometimes infrequently. As people in these countries age, they slowly disconnect from their previous lives and, if health or mobility is an issue, they move into assisted living facilities.



FRANCE

France clearly prioritizes their elderly population as they actually introduced an Elderly Rights Law into their civil code in 2004. The law required those living in the country to stay connected with their parents. The law was introduced after statistics showed a high rate of suicides with their elderly population and after a heat wave in the country that took the lives of many people, most of them elderly citizens.

